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INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

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SKORZENY'S ACTIVITIES

On December 18, 1951, a source (WER) in contact with the West German Foreign Office reports that Skorzeny is now occupied with the lumber business, making purchases in Angola for delivery to the Western countries. He is closely connected with the American Military Attache in Spain. The latter has obviously been talking with him about bringing the remains of the former German Intelligence Service together and building it up again. Skorzeny has also succeeded in making contact with General Munoz Grande.

Personages in the Catholic Church, especially those of the Capuchin order, are helping him. (Note: Source doubts this statement of his sub-source).

Skorzeny's connection with the former German Intelligence Service seems certain, since he keeps up and improves his connections with the SS and the Sicherheitsdienst. There is a certain amount of danger in this, since the connections of the former Nazi Party members, especially in the SS and SD are very obscure, and partly extend into the East Zone, in an undesirable fashion. In an intelligence sense the new enterprise is not a real intelligence service, but rather works in Skorzeny's old area of "Einsatzgruppen" in West Germany. On this point they are sharply opposed to the CIC and the German Intelligence Service, which hold that the setting up of such groups in West Germany is both useless and dangerous. It is the same with regard to other Communist dominated countries where the position is altogether different than in West Germany, for example, the Balkans, Russia and China. A European service of this kind should concentrate on propaganda.

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Moreover, in setting up both "Einsatz" groups and an intelligence service, there is the danger that they will clash with each other.

On September 6, Skorzeny arranged a "political announcement" at the house of the former Secretary of State in the Propaganda Ministry, Mr. Neumann. At this meeting were present also Leo Schulz of Hamburg, Dr. Bornemann, the representative of Franke-Grieksch and the textile buyer Lucht.

On September 7, Skorzeny held a conference with Colonel Ruoff on the subject of shifting industrial laboratories to Spain or Argentina. Similar negotiations were earlier undertaken with representatives of the Otto Wolff group, the Reusch group and the Borgward automobile firm.

Also during the early days of September, Skorzeny went to Stuttgart to call on the SS-Standartenfuhrer Harzer, and he probably met Col.-Gen. of the Waffen-SS Hauser at the same house.

On November 15, Skorzeny was expected with K.H. Priester in Hamburg, for conversations with Leo Schulz and a Kurt Kluge, Bruening's liaison man. (Note: Source questions this statement of sub-source).

On the Spanish side, Skorzeny has been advised that the SS had better stay in Germany, since the Pyrenees could be defended without its help.

Fritsch, the chief editor of the new Nazi monthly, "Der Weg", of Buenos Aires, is currently in Germany and has been talking with Leo Schulz. There is also a probably connection between Fritsch and Radl, Skorzeny's former adjutant.

In Hamburg there was a meeting about November 10, between the President of the Council of the V.D.S. (German Soldiers' Association) provincial association, Major-Gen. Mauss, Kurt Kluge and a certain Duerrkopf. The others were trying to persuade Dr. Mauss that the President of the HIAG in Hamburg, General of the Waffen-SS Kumm, was hardly the man for a leading post in the V.D.S. Kluge offered Ekkehard Wangemann of the Europäische-Soziale Bewegung as a substitute, a man who is closely connected with Priester and Leo Schulz.